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EXAMINER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/671,966	SCHNEIDER ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Michele C. Choi	2169	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>26 September 2003</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL.**   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-11</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-11</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>26 September 2003</u> is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>7/24/2006</u>.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   This Office Action is in response to Application No. 10/671,966 filed September

26, 2003. Claims 1-11 are pending in this application.

2.   The specification and the claims have been examined with the results that follow.

I. INFORMATION CONCERNING OATH/DECLARATION

Oath/Declaration

3.   The applicant's oath/declaration has been reviewed by the examiner and is found

to conform to the requirements prescribed in 37 C.F.R. 1.63.

II. INFORMATION CONCERNING DRAWINGS

Drawings

4.   The amended drawings of Fig. 21A and Fig. 21B filed on February 13, 2004 are

approved by the Examiner.

III. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RELATED DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED BY APPLICANT

5.   As required by **M.P.E.P. 609 (C)**, the applicant's submissions of the Information Disclosure Statement dated July 24, 2006 is acknowledged by the examiner and the cited references have been considered in the examination of the claims now pending. As required by **M.P.E.P. 609 C(2)**, a copy of the PTOL_1449 initialed and dated by the examiner is attached to the instant office action.

IV. OBJECTIONS TO THE SPECIFICATION

6.   The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Objections

5.   **Claims 1, 5, and 9-11** are objected to because of the following informalities:

(a) In claim 1, line 5, it is not clear that "program" refers to the "program" previously recited in claim 1, line 4. Examiner suggests applicant replace "a program" with –the program-- in claim 1, line 5.

(b) In claim 1, line 5, it is not clear that "program slot" refers to the "program slot" previously recited in claim 1, line 4. Examiner suggests applicant replace "a program slot" with --the program slot-- in claim 1, line 5.

(c) In claim 5, line 1, it is not clear that "program" refers to the "program" previously recited in claim 1, line 4. Examiner suggests applicant replace "a program" with --the program-- in claim 5, line 1.

(d) In claim 9, line 1, it is not clear that "auxiliary workspace" refers to the "auxiliary workspace" previously recited in claim 7, line 2. Examiner suggests applicant replace "an auxiliary workspace" with --the auxiliary workspace -- in claim 9, line 1.

(e) In claim 10, line 1, it is not clear that "auxiliary workspace" refers to the "auxiliary workspace" previously recited in claim 7, line 2. Examiner suggests applicant replace "an auxiliary workspace" with --the auxiliary workspace -- in claim 10, line 1.

(f) In claim 11, line 1, it is not clear that "auxiliary workspace" refers to the "auxiliary workspace" previously recited in claim 7, line 2. Examiner suggests applicant replace "an auxiliary workspace" with --the auxiliary workspace -- in claim 11, line 1.

Appropriate correction is required.

V. REJECTIONS BASED ON PRIOR ART

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

7.   **Claims 1-5 and 7-11** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated

by Shimizu et al. (US Patent 6,374,271 B1).

As per **claim 1**, Shimizu discloses, "a method for configuring media file

properties for a digital document using a program property configuration tool" as *[a*

hypermedia authoring system that enables an author to generate a document

using a goals outline and a presentation outline and provides a technique to

relate the goals and the presentation outlines. The goals outline organizes the

information content of the document contained in cards in a logical structure

while the presentation outline is directed to the physical appearance of the

document (column 1, lines 43-50)]. Furthermore, Shimizu discloses, "providing a first

workspace for configuring programs, the first workspace including a plurality of program

slots, wherein each program slot may be associated with a program" as *[The*

hypermedia authoring system...provides a display for creating a presentation

outline in the form of Bento-boxes. Each Bento-box includes a layout workspace

in which spacer objects may be placed. Spatial and temporal parameters may

also be specified corresponding to each spacer object. The spacer objects may

be linked to cards in the card database and an indication of a link relationship

with the goals outline is also provided (column 1, line 66 – column 2, line 6); **Fig.**

13]. Finally, Shimizu discloses, "configuring a program in a program slot, the program

having at least one program property, the program associated with the at least one

program property" as **[*The goals outline processor 608 processes the goals outline**

***by displaying a goals outline display 400 on the display device 605 and generates**

***the goals outline 102 based on user inputs received through the keyboard/mouse**

***609...Fig. 8 shows the goals outline display 400 that includes a tree view area 402,**

***a card link area 404, and a document prototype legend area 406. The tree view 402**

***displays the tree view 408 of the goals outline 202. Each of the nodes 206-214 are**

***represented by square boxes that are connected to a respective icon such as**

***icon 432 corresponding to node 206. Each of the icons 432, 436, 438, 440, and 460**

***are coded, by color for example, based on the document prototype that is**

***instantiated to correspond to the respective nodes 206-214. For example, the icon**

***432 is colored blue as represented by the horizontal parallel lines; icon 438 is**

***colored red as represented by the parallel vertical lines; and icon 440 is colored**

***green as represented by the parallel slanted lines. As shown in the legend area**

***406, the blue color indicated in area 424 corresponds to a description document**

***prototype; the green color indicated in area 426 corresponds to an argument**

prototype; and the red color indicated in area 428 corresponds to a narrative

prototype **(column 5, lines 44-65); Fig. 8]**.

As per **claim 2**, Shimizu discloses, "wherein the program property is an object"

as **[*The spacer objects 706-718* (column 7, line 35); *related goals outline nodes***

(column 7, lines 46-48); Fig. 13]. Furthermore, Shimizu discloses, "and the program is

an object" as **[*The cards in the card database 106 are information elements (called***

points) on which the document being authored is based...the cards contain the

actual hypermedia information such as video, sound or text that make up the

document. The contents of the points may be appropriated from either external

sources or created from scratch by the author **(column 3, lines 38-44);** *Bento-box*

(column 7, line 36); *The Bento-boxes may be linked to each other in a stack for a*

sequential slide presentation **(column 2, lines 12-13)]**. Finally, Shimizu discloses,

"the program object referencing the program property object and a media file" as **[*The***

related goals outline nodes are goals outline nodes that are linked to cards which

are also linked to spacer objects in the Bento-box 800 **(column 7, lines 48-50);** *The*

cards in the card database 106 are information elements (called points) on which

the document being authored is based...the cards contain the actual hypermedia

information such as video, sound or text that make up the document. The

contents of the points may be appropriated from either external sources or

created from scratch by the author **(column 3, lines 38-44); Fig. 8 and Fig. 13]**.

As per **claim 3**, Shimizu discloses, "wherein a first program object and a second program object reference the same program property object" as *[the caption spacer object 710 is highlighted as indicated by the dotted box 802 and the corresponding card C is highlighted as indicated by the dotted box 803. If a spacer object 706-718 is linked to more than one card, then all the cards linked to the selected spacer object are highlighted* (column 7, lines 40-45); Fig. 13].

As per **claim 4**, Shimizu discloses, "wherein a first program object and a second program object reference duplicate program property objects" as *[the caption spacer object 710 is highlighted as indicated by the dotted box 802 and the corresponding card C is highlighted as indicated by the dotted box 803. If a spacer object 706-718 is linked to more than one card, then all the cards linked to the selected spacer object are highlighted* (column 7, lines 40-45); Fig. 13].

As per **claim 5**, Shimizu discloses, "wherein configuring a program includes: importing the media file to the program property configuration tool" as *[Once instantiated, the hypermedia authoring system provides a display that permits the author to link each of the slot types of an instantiated document prototype with cards in a card database. Cards may also be created from scratch by the author or imported from external sources and linked with the instantiated document prototype* (column 1, lines 60-65); *The cards in the card database 106 are information elements (called points) on which the document being authored is*

based...the cards contain the actual hypermedia information such as video,

sound or text that make up the document. The contents of the points may be

appropriated from either external sources or created from scratch by the author

(column 3, lines 38-44); Fig. 8].

As per **claim 7**, Shimizu discloses, "providing an auxiliary workspace, the

workspace including media configuring elements" as *[Each Bento-box includes a*

layout workspace in which spacer objects may be placed. Spatial and temporal

parameters may also be specified corresponding to each spacer object. The

spacer objects may be linked to cards in the card database and an indication of a

link relationship with the goals outline is also provided (column 1, line 66 –

column 2, line 6); Fig. 11].

As per **claim 8**, Shimizu discloses, "implementing the program property

configuration tool as a graphic user interface, wherein the first workspace is

implemented as a first GUI window" as *[The hypermedia authoring*

system...provides a display for creating a presentation outline in the form of

Bento-boxes. Each Bento-box includes a layout workspace in which spacer

objects may be placed. Spatial and temporal parameters may also be specified

corresponding to each spacer object. The spacer objects may be linked to cards

in the card database and an indication of a link relationship with the goals outline

is also provided **(column 1, line 66 – column 2, line 6); Fig. 13]**. Furthermore,

Shimizu discloses, "the auxiliary workspace is implemented as a second GUI window"

as [*The goals outline processor 608 processes the goals outline by displaying a*

goals outline display 400 on the display device 605 and generates the goals

outline 102 based on user inputs received through the keyboard/mouse 609...Fig.

8 shows the goals outline display 400 that includes a tree view area 402, a card

link area 404, and a document prototype legend area 406. The tree view 402

displays the tree view 408 of the goals outline 202. Each of the nodes 206-214 are

represented by square boxes that are connected to a respective icon such as

icon 432 corresponding to node 206. Each of the icons 432, 436, 438, 440, and 460

are coded, by color for example, based on the document prototype that is

instantiated to correspond to the respective nodes 206-214. For example, the icon

432 is colored blue as represented by the horizontal parallel lines; icon 438 is

colored red as represented by the parallel vertical lines; and icon 440 is colored

green as represented by the parallel slanted lines. As shown in the legend area

406, the blue color indicated in area 424 corresponds to a description document

prototype; the green color indicated in area 426 corresponds to an argument

prototype; and the red color indicated in area 428 corresponds to a narrative

prototype (column 5, lines 44-65); Fig. 8]. Furthermore, Shimizu discloses, "each

program object is represented by a program icon" as [*bento-boxes 1510 and 1512*

(column 9, line 39); Fig. 21]. Furthermore, Shimizu discloses, "and each program

property object is represented by a program property icon" as [*the Bento-box*

800...includes a related goals outline area 806 that shows related goals outline

nodes. The related goals outline nodes are goals outline nodes that are linked to

cards which are also linked to spacer objects in the Bento-box 800...icons

indicating the types of the related goals outline nodes are shown in the area 805.

Thus, Goals OL E is a description type; Goals OL J is a narrative type; and Goals

OL B is an argument type based on the legend shown in the legend area 406 of

Fig. 8 (column 7, lines 45-55); Fig. 8 and Fig. 13].

As per **claim 9**, Shimizu discloses, "wherein providing an auxiliary workspace

includes: providing a media search tool" as *[A visual display of the goals outline*

permits the author to select a prototype document from a directory of prototype

documents and instantiate the selected prototype document that corresponds to

a node of the goals outline. Once instantiated, the hypermedia authoring system

provides a display that permits the author to link each of the slot types of an

instantiated document prototype with cards in a card database. Cards may also

be created from scratch by the author or imported from external sources and

linked with the instantiated document prototype (column 1, lines 55-65); Fig. 8-

Fig. 9].

As per **claim 10**, Shimizu discloses, "wherein providing an auxiliary workspace

includes: providing a scene configuration tool" as *[The presentation outline*

processor...provides support for the author to generate a presentation

outline...FIG. 10 shows a layout workspace 700 where the author may generate a

physical appearance of the document spatially as well as temporally by placing

spacer objects in a spatial layout area 702 and spacer objects in a sound layout

area 704. For example, the author may place visual spacer objects 706-712 and

sound spacer objects 714, 716 and 718 as shown in FIG. 10. Each of the spacer

objects may be time sequenced using a temporal view 810 of the layout

workspace 700 as shown in FIG. 11...The spacer objects 706-718 in the layout

workspace 700 are linked to corresponding cards by using a Bento-box 800

(which may be a card) which include the layout workspace as shown in Fig. 13. A

card link area 804 shows the cards that are linked to the corresponding spacer

objects 706-718...In addition to the card link area 804, the Bento-Box 800 also

includes a related goals outline area 806 that shows related goals outline nodes.

The related goals outline nodes are goals outline nodes that are linked to cards

which are also linked to spacer objects in the Bento-box 800...The Bento-box 800

provides a method for linking the presentation outline to the cards in the card

database 106 which indirectly also links the presentation outline 104 with the

goals outline 102 as indicated by the related goals outline area 806 (column 7,

lines 16-59); Fig. 10 - Fig. 13].

As per **claim 11**, Shimizu discloses, "wherein providing an auxiliary workspace

includes: providing a slide configuration tool" as [*The Bento-boxes may be linked to*

each other in a stack for a sequential slide presentation (column 2, lines 12-13);

Fig. 14 shows a stack of Bento-boxes 830, 840 and 850. Bento-box 830 titled

Bento 1 is displayed first and then Bento-box 840 titled Bento 2 is displayed

second and then Bento-box 850 titled Bento 3 is displayed third...Bento-boxes

830, 840 and 850 are linked to each other in a stack to indicate a serial

presentation of the information contained in each of the Bento-boxes 830, 840

and 850. A Bento-box stack may be given titles so that each of the Bento-box

stacks may be referenced as a whole when linked to other Bento-boxes or Bento-

box stacks. For example, FIG. 15 shows such a sequence of Bento-boxes slide #1

902, slide #2 904 and slide #3 906. These Bento-boxes 902-906 are arranged

sequentially in a stack so that Bento-boxes 902, 904 and 906 are presented in

sequential order as a slideshow presentation (column 7, line 60 – column 8, line

7); Fig. 14 - Fig. 15].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

9.   **Claim 6** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shimizu

et al. (US Patent 6,374,271 B1), and in view of Scheier et al. (USPA Pub 2004/0151403

A1).

        As per **claim 6**, Shimizu discloses the claimed invention as detailed in **claim 1**

above.

        Shimizu does not explicitly teach "exporting the program"

        However, Scheier discloses, "exporting the program" as *[Powerpoint export:*

the current visualization can be stored as a Powerpoint slide...the regions are

also exported at the same time **(page 9, paragraph [0118], lines 1-3)]**.

        Shimizu and Scheier are analogous art because they both teach a method of

creating multimedia presentations.

        It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to have combined the teachings of Scheier's with the teachings of

Shimizu because Scheier's teachings provide Shimizu's method with the ability to

export Powerpoint presentations to use in other applications **[page 9, paragraph**

[0118], line 1].

Conclusion

10.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 (c) to consider these references fully when responding to this action. The documents cited in form PTO-892 teach a method for configuring media file properties for a digital document using a program property configuration tool.

11.   The examiner requests, in response to this Office action, support be shown for language added to any original claims on amendment and any new claims. That is, indicate support for newly added claim language by specifically pointing to page(s) and line no(s) in the specification and/or drawing figure(s). This will assist the examiner in prosecuting the application.

12.   When responding to this office action, Applicant is advised to clearly point out the patentable novelty which he or she thinks the claims present, in view of the state of the art disclosed by the references cited or the objections made. He or she must also show how the amendments avoid such references or objections See 37 CFR 1.111(c).

15.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michele C. Choi whose telephone number is 571-272-

9776. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri, 7:30AM to 5PM EST, alternate Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Pierre Vital can be reached on 571-272-4215. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private (PAIR) or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

June 11, 2007

Michele C. Choi
Examiner
Art Unit: 2169

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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER